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Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016

High 25°C/Low 13°C Partly cloudy

Devastation in Mississauga

Police are evacuating homes in an area of Mississauga, Ont., as they investigate a house explosion Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

INVESTIGATION

Explosion kills one person, wipes out three homes

As one resident simply put it, it looked like a "war zone."

Residents on a quiet Mississauga street were thrown into shock and confusion on Tuesday afternoon after an explosion at a house on Hickory Dr. that killed one person, wiped out three homes and caused moderate damage to six to eight others.

"Everything was strewn all over, tons of 2 by 4s, aluminum, bricks," said Claudio Cugliari.

Although the cause remains under investigation, authorities confirmed that one person had died and nine others assessed for minor injuries. Firefighters were conducting a search and rescue operation Tuesday evening.

In one photo taken by Cugliari, a woman can be seen being carried from a home by a police officer amid the rubble.

Aerial footage from the scene, near the intersection at Rathburn Rd. E., appeared to show an obliterated residential block, debris strewn in the streets. Neighbours described hearing a blast that shook windows and doors several streets over.

> **"It was like pictures from a hurricane."**
> Claudio Cugliari

"Even my plaza roof shook," said Ijaz Ahmad, owner of nearby Dixie Grocers.

Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie said about 50 to 100 people had been taken to a nearby reception centre.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

More coverage, pages 6 & 7

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Your essential daily news

Trudeau, Peña Nieto reach deal on visa requirements and Canadian beef. **Canada**

LGBTQ archives opening up

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Volunteers digitizing collection for online access

Steven Goetz
For Metro | Toronto

While the city celebrates Pride, volunteers at Ryerson University are working diligently to digitize one of the world's largest archives of LGBTQ history.

Kevin Manuel, a data and sociology librarian at Ryerson, and a team of volunteers and students are carefully scanning materials from the Canadian Lesbian and Gay Archives (CLGA) to preserve them for future generations and make them accessible through a new website scheduled to launch in the fall.

"The digital revolution gives us the opportunity to bring some of this material out of the closet and to a wider audience, whether it's researchers, students or the public," Manuel said.

The team has already captured images of activist T-shirts and buttons going back to the 1970s, and is working to upload images of matchbooks from gay and lesbian businesses dating back to the 1950s.

Unique to the CLGA is a collection of tabloid magazines from the pre-Stonewall era documenting the arrest of gay Canadians and the homophobic attitudes of the time.

"Gay people were not always visible like they are today and in the pre-Internet era, it was a very isolated and alienating experience," Manuel said.

"In the tabloid collection, we can see the early voices coming out through editorials arguing against the criminalization of homosexuality," Manuel said.

The archives tell the story of gay businesses, many of which were bars and nightclubs, which were the incubators for 40 years of protest and lobbying for LGBTQ rights, Manuel said.

"I think it is important for people to know where we came from and what was done to get us here."

5 Things stored away as part of history

1 Mark Leduc's shorts

The onetime Canadian light welterweight boxer won a silver medal at the 1992 Olympics before coming out in 1994. The archives hold a pair of his boxing shorts

THE CANADIAN PRESS

2 Glad Day Bookshop sign

A meeting place for gay activists since its opening in 1970 and right up to today, the archive has the Church Street icons early years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

3 Menu and ads for the St. Charles Tavern

COURTESY CLGA

One of the city's earliest gay establishments, menus and ads for the St. Charles Tavern are part of the archive's collection of artifacts documenting gay meeting places.

4 Activist T-shirts and buttons

After the 1981 Bathhouse raids in Toronto, a bolder, more colourful activism emerged — captured in the CLGA's collection of T-shirts and buttons.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

5 Portrait collection

Gay and lesbian icons such as singer Carole Pope are honoured in a collection of portraits.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Toronto Rehab

Tory defends subway op-ed

PLANS

Critics dispute claim extension is best option for immigrants

In an effort to win over hearts and minds for the controversial Scarborough subway extension, Mayor John Tory has suggested that a major benefit of the project would be its ability to deliver transit to underserved immigrant communities.

But the city's own analysis shows the $3.2-billion, one-stop subway would directly serve only a small number of residents in disadvantaged neighbourhoods that have high populations of newcomers.

In an op-ed published by thestar.com and by the Toronto Star on Tuesday, Tory laid out his case for extending the Bloor-Danforth line six kilometres to the Scarborough Town Centre.

Tory wrote that the subway would "promote social equity," and charged that "many of the subway's loudest critics do not live or work in Scarborough, where more than half the population is born outside of Canada. When they say this is too much to spend on a subway, the inference seems to be that it's too much to spend on this part of the city."

John Tory says his recent op-ed had been 'mischaracterized'. LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Tory told reporters Tuesday his column had been "mischaracterized," but the statement provoked an angry backlash from some of the mayor's colleagues. Coun. Josh Matlow (Ward 22, St. Paul's), who opposes the subway plan, accused Tory of trying to "smear" the project's critics "as not caring about immigrants."

Providing disadvantaged communities with better transit access was one of the measurements city staff used to evaluate transit projects in a major report released last week.

City planners determined the Scarborough subway "would directly serve very few" disadvantaged residents, which they defined as people living in Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIA) — designated areas that are economically marginalized and often have high immigrant populations.

The proposed one-stop subway extension running along McCowan Avenue would bring only 1,700 additional residents of NIAs within walking distance of a transit station, the report found.

Coun. Gord Perks argued that the seven-stop LRT line council scrapped in 2013 and replaced with the subway extension would have better served disadvantaged parts of Scarborough.

The LRT, originally priced at $1.48 billion, proposed stops in three areas designed as priority neighbourhoods at the time.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SCARBOROUGH

Transit decision going back to council

After more than four hours, Mayor John Tory's executive committee approved taking the next steps on billions of dollars' worth of proposed subway, heavy rail and LRT stops, as confusion over Scarborough's transit future escalated.

Whether to fund a subway or LRTs in Scarborough is a decision now headed back to council — nearly three years after council voted to scrap plans for a fully funded light-rail line in favour of a three-stop subway.

With costs ballooning for the controversial one-stop subway— $3.2 billion that critics say would provide less rapid transit at a higher cost — Tory and his council supporters tried to pre-emptively shut down any attempt to revive plans for a seven-stop LRT to replace the aging Scarborough RT.

"The people spoke," Tory told reporters of what he says is a continuing election mandate to build a subway to Scarborough.

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Individual results may vary, some are better or worse because it depends on how much time, energy and money an individual puts into their real estate business. © 2016 NVCompanies. All Rights Reserved. Gifts and promotional materials may vary.

It was like 'an airplane hitting the

DISASTER

Voices from the scene of Mississauga explosion

Eyewitnesses compared it to war and natural disasters as they spoke among the debris.

People caught up in the chaos around Mississauga's devastating explosion described their experiences Tuesday night, and their reactions to the terrifying event.

Paolo De Luca

Paolo De Luca was nearby when it happened.

"I was walking on the sidewalk, at least 100 feet from the house and the whole thing blew up in the air," he said. "My dog ran into the backyard, my mom was gardening and it knocked her down.

"I went to my neighbours. I ran into the house right beside the one that blew up. I didn't smell gas from the house that blew up. It was just foundation. Inside the house was smoke, broken glass, it was a war zone."

Chris Chondronikolas lives about seven houses away from the blast, but didn't know who lived at the home.

"As a neighbour, I noticed the grass was high, a foot high, and a handful of rolled up newspapers at the bottom of the door," he said.

He had just returned home from work when he heard what sounded like "an airplane hitting the roof."

He ran outside and saw smoke plumes and debris littering the street.

"It was so loud you felt your house move," he said. "The grandfather clock swayed and I grabbed to stop it from falling."

"I was getting ready to change and it sounded like an airplane hit the roof. I run outside and all I could see was smoke. It was bad."

Lioubov Pantchak's daughter is getting married next month, and the whole family has descended on their home on Hickory Dr. to prepare for the celebration.

Shortly after 4 p.m., Pantchak arrived at the home and entered to check on her 87-year-old mother, Hanna, who recently landed in Toronto from Ukraine.

Just after she walked in the house, a massive explosion blasted out from the north. It felt like the house got struck by a plane.

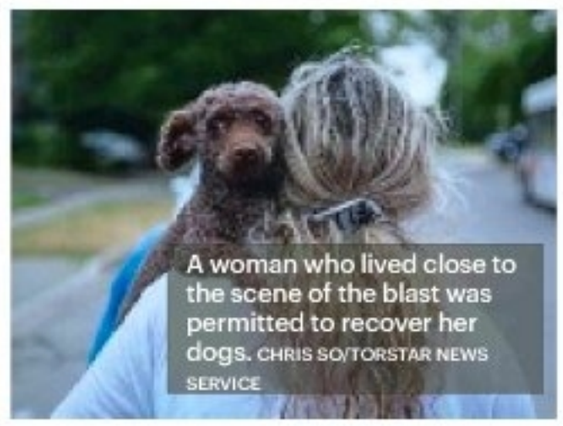
"This is terrible. Terrible. I can't believe that this happened. My mother is very, very scared," Pantchak said.

Now, just days before her daughter's wedding, Pantchak is scrambling to fix the long crack in her doorframe and slots in the roof above her front porch, which were bent and knocked loose by the force of the blast.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/METRO

Residents flee a townhouse complex, one block east of the explosion on Hickory Drive. Peel EMS treated several patients for injuries including from broken glass. GRAHAM PAINE/ METROLAND MEDIA GROUP

Emergency crews on the scene of the blast. P. MOCZULSKI/FOR TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



A woman who lived close to the scene of the blast was permitted to recover her dogs. CHRIS SO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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roof’

Debris litters a street in the aftermath of the explosion in Mississauga. Condos and townhomes had their windows blown out. ZELJKO ZIDARIC/THE CANADIAN PRESS

“I was walking on the sidewalk, at least 100 feet from the house and the whole thing blew up in the air.
Paolo De Luca

INVESTIGATION

Mystery notes found at scene of explosion

Notes found at the scene may have provided some explanation, but remained unconfirmed on Tuesday night.

A man, who didn’t want to be identified, showed Torstar News Service images of handwritten letters he said a friend recovered on the street immediately following the blast.

According to a text message conversation, these pieces of paper were collected by the friend on the street in front of the destroyed house, put in a grocery bag and handed off to police.

“Dear God, as of next week everything will fall apart for us,” begins the note.

It goes on to say: “We owe mortgage, company, house taxes, water bill, gas bill, hydro bill” and “our outside looks like crap, unkept lawn, overgrown plants, bricks on wall cracking.”

The note concludes: “The upstairs bathroom electricity is off, the back bathroom shower has problems and we have No Money to fix or pay anyone.”

The note’s author is unknown. Police declined comment, but directed residents to hand over any papers or belongings strewn about the neighborhood.

A note reportedly recovered from in front of the house.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Asked about the note, Peel Police Const. Rachel Gibbs said it’s “too early to speculate” on what happened Tuesday.

Firefighters and police remained on scene Tuesday evening, evacuating the area.

“We are working to stabilize the scene, and part of that requires the gas line to be shut off. We are looking at 58 homes which may be affected by that,” Platoon Chief Alan Hills told residents at the scene.

He added that about 18 homes had various degrees of structural damage, such as broken doors and windows.

Buses took evacuees to nearby Burnhamthorpe Community Centre. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/METRO

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Tweets gauge public pulse

SOCIAL MEDIA

Researchers plan to map the sentiments of users by locale

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

From comments on brunch to complaints about transit delays, your tweets could soon form the basis of local policymaking in Toronto.

Joint research from Wilfrid Laurier University and St. Michael's Hospital is looking to measure the emotions of different locales by analyzing tweets generated in the area. The goal is to map where people are happy, sad, angry, stressed or frustrated in real-time.

"We used to rely on pen and paper studies. Not anymore," said Ketan Shankardass, lead researcher of Tweets in the Streets project, and a social epidemiology professor at Laurier.

"With social media advances, important data is easily available for anyone."

The plan is to enroll 200 local Twitter users — anyone sending at least a tweet a day would qualify — and follow them for two weeks, examining their tweets to discern their feelings.

Knowing people may tweet things that have nothing to do with where they physically are, researchers will follow up with a formal survey to validate emotions detected through the tweets.

The collected data will help create a tool to measure neighbourhood sentiment, something that can come in handy for public service providers, Shankardass said.

"It could accurately tell city planners, healthcare providers or emergency responders where to boost their resources.

"If you can tell in real time where people are in distress, it definitely helps you decide where to move."

Shankardass hopes to have the tool ready by next spring.

> "We used to rely on pen and paper studies. Not anymore."
>
> Ketan Shankardass

TRANSPORTATION

Board looks into runaway train

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada is currently investigating a runaway train that rolled more than five kilometres from a rail yard in Toronto last week.

Safety board spokesman Eric Collard says that a crew was moving the 74-car train remotely around 11:30 p.m. on June 17 when it rolled away.

Collard says the train was stationed at the MacMillan Yard in north Toronto and finally came to rest on an uphill embankment on the main track heading eastbound.

74
The runaway train was comprised of 74 cars.

He says there were no injuries, no derailments and no damage to either the train or the track.

Collard says investigators are currently working to determine the circumstances of how the train was able to roll away.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PRECARIOUS WORK IS HURTING OUR REGION, OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR LIBRARIES

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That's why workers at MLS are trying to negotiate a fair contract that addresses precarious work in our community.

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Together, let's turn the page on precarious work.

FACTS ABOUT MISSISSAUGA'S LIBRARIES

Proportion of part-time workers: 56%

Hourly wage earned by 25% of the workforce: $11.39

Benefits, paid sick leave and paid vacation for part-time MLS workers: NONE

^ Ontario's poverty line: $19,930

< Maximum annual wage for the lowest-paid library workers: $14,215

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— Mayor Crombie, February 27, 2015

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Mandela's legacy lives

ACTIVISM

Grandson of anti-apartheid hero to speak at awards gala

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

Anti-apartheid hero Nelson Mandela's legacy is scattered around Toronto, from the school in Regent Park that bears his name to the thousands of Torontonians he inspired to work for a better world.

Now for the first time, another Mandela is in town.

His grandson Ndaba is here to share his grandfather's legacy of empowering youth, speaking at the Friends of Africa Humanity Awards on Thursday about the importance of education and giving back.

Ndaba said if Nelson, who died in 2013, was still alive he would tell young people to contribute to their communities instead of focusing on curating their Instagram feeds.

"Everybody's so obsessed with social media technology but where does one draw the gap between reality and the life that's lived on social media?" he asked.

The 33-year-old's visit comes right before Nelson Mandela Day, his July 18th birthday.

People are asked to give 67 minutes of their day in service of others to honour the 67 years Mandela gave to the struggle for human rights and justice.

Ndaba lives in Johannesburg and has founded the Africa Rising Foundation, which furthers computer literacy in rural Africa.

"It's geared towards creating a new breed of Africans who will empower themselves to be at the forefront of Africa's development," he said.

CHECK IT OUT

The Friends of Africa awards gala is June 30 from 5:30 to 11:00 p.m. at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

Nbada Mandela will be speaking at the Friends of Africa Humanity Awards. LIZ BEDDALL/ METRO

Conrad Black's home at 26 Park Circle Lane in Toronto.
COURTESY CONCIERGE AUCTIONS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

TAXES

Conrad Black, CRA reach a settlement

Conrad Black says he has reached a settlement with the Canada Revenue Agency after it placed liens on his Toronto home due to claims that he owes $15 million in unpaid taxes.

"It has been resolved to the shared satisfaction of the parties involved, and I will have no further comment on it," the former media baron said in an email Tuesday.

Black had originally asked for an emergency hearing with the Federal Court, arguing that the tax liens, which were placed on his mansion last month, were stalling the sale of his property. He withdrew that request late Monday.

In May, the CRA placed two liens against the estate, alleging that Black owes in excess of $15 million in taxes from 2002, 2003 and 2008.

Black said in the email that he considered the matter private and will not be discussing it further through the media.

His lawyer, David Nathanson, said he was not at liberty to discuss the terms of the settlement.

Black had agreed in March to sell the nine-bedroom, 11-bathroom home in Toronto's ritzy Bridle Path neighbourhood to multimillionaire businessman Harold Peerenboom for $14 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HIGH PARK ZOO

Second capybara captured

The second fugitive capybara has been returned to High Park Zoo, reportedly safe and sound.

Park staff was notified by a resident that found the capybara in a trap near the Grenadier Pond at 7 a.m. Tuesday morning.

"It's very exciting," Megan Price, spokesperson for the city's parks said. "We knew that the capybara was in that area, but it's exciting that he's finally returned home."

Price told the Star that the capybara had a few scratches, and that it would be put indoors for several days until a vet was available to attend to it.

"Both captured capybaras remain indoors, but we're targeting for Thursday to bring let them outside," she said.

The return of the runaway rodent was posted on Facebook on the website of Friends of High Park Zoo: "Home safe and sound, finally resting safely at the zoo. Welcome home. Yes this is the second capybara. Thank you everyone for your help."

"It's baaaack!," Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation posted on its website. "Early this morning, the remaining capybara was successfully trapped by Parks staff near Grenadier Pond at High Park."

The second half of the fugitive capybara duo was captured at Grenadier Pond at High Park. FACEBOOK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"It is resting quietly indoors at the High Park Zoo until a vet can check it out," the posting continues. "Once it gets a clean bill of health, and is comfortable in its surroundings, it will be reunited with the other capybara."

After several sightings of the second fugitive, city staff surrounded the area near the Grenadier Pond with traps, monitoring the capybara's activities in the early morning – their most active time. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

JAILBREAK

Precautions are being put in place at the High Park Zoo, including the construction of two different enclosures to house the three capybaras, and the building of a higher fence in order to prevent further escapes.

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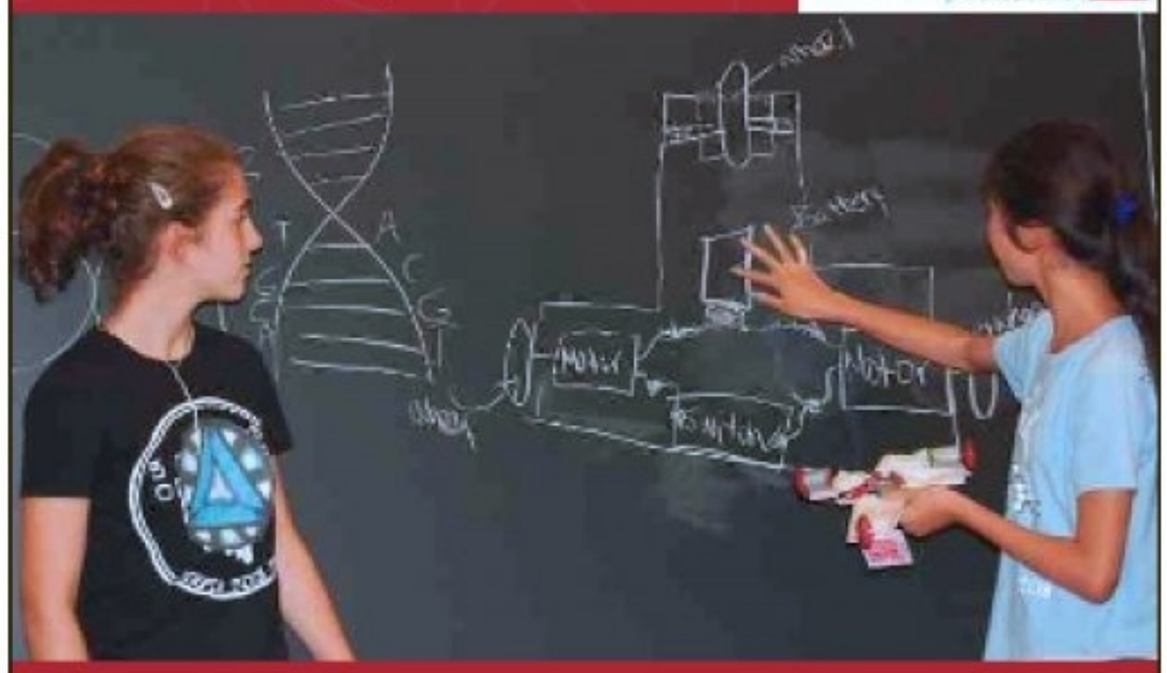

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Visa rules changing for Mexican visitors

POLITICS

In turn, Mexico will import Canadian beef

Canada will lift its controversial visa requirement for Mexican visitors before the end of the year, while Mexico has agreed to end long-standing restrictions on Canadian beef imports, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Tuesday.

Although both changes are still months away, Trudeau and Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto expressed satisfaction that the two main irritants in their bilateral relationship would be removed, paving the way for deeper co-operation.

"This move will make it easier for our Mexican friends to visit Canada while growing our local economies and strengthening our communities," Trudeau told a news conference on Parliament Hill, Peña Nieto standing alongside.

Ending Mexican restrictions on Canadian beef, a lingering side effect of long-standing fears over mad-cow disease, "will support Canadian farmers and Canadian families," he added.

The visa requirement will be lifted by Dec. 1, while the beef ban ends in October.

The previous Conservative government imposed visas in 2009 to stop thousands of asylum claims being made by ineligible Mexican citizens — a controversial move that has stood as the major irritant between the two countries. The visiting Mexican president was clearly happy to see its demise.

"Since 2009, this barrier has been set, but today thanks to a great political will, we are overcoming such a barrier," Peña Nieto said in Spanish.

Conservative immigration critic Michelle Rempel said in a statement that Trudeau was making "a political decision that puts the security of Canadians at risk" by lifting the visa.

This move will make it easier for our Mexican friends to visit Canada while growing our local economies.
PM Justin Trudeau

"The decision to lift the visa appears to be a completely political quid pro quo, rather than a decision based on evidence and Canada's national interest."

The Tories have said the asylum rate for Mexican nationals fell below one per cent over the last four years, down from 25 per cent just before the visa requirement was put in place in 2008. The Liberals promised during last year's election campaign that the visa would be lifted, but the process has been fraught with delays.

The two countries also agreed to work together to advance the interests of indigenous people in both countries, in particular to help women gain access to education and foster innovation and entrepreneurship, Trudeau said.

"The president and I also discussed the need to uphold human rights, advance democracy, and the rule of law, and ensure respect for diversity, as well as the ways in which we can work together to ensure these important goals."

Peña Nieto was on Day 2 of a three-day visit to Canada that culminates in the North American Leaders' Summit, taking place Wednesday at Ottawa's National Gallery of Canada with Trudeau and U.S. President Barack Obama. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau walk out to speak with media. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

JOGGING BUDDIES

Trudeau and Nieto make a run for it ahead of summit

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has a new running mate — Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto.

The pair, who frequently make the short list for world's hottest leaders, took a ceremonial jog Tuesday morning ahead of their press conference.

Peña Nieto is in Ottawa for the so-called Three Amigos summit between Mexico, Canada and the United States. U.S. President Barack Obama joins them tomorrow.

Trudeau and Peña Nieto ran along a bridge between Ottawa and Gatineau, Que., flagged by about six security staff who jogged alongside or rode bikes while fellow joggers and cyclists gawked at the procession.

Trudeau wore running shorts and a graphic tee from the Saskatchewan Jazz Festival, while Peña Nieto donned teeny-tiny black shorts and a neon tee with matching sneakers.

It's a time-honoured tradition for visiting dignitaries and Canadian leaders to hit the trails. After all, nothing says diplomacy like short shorts.

The two leaders run across the Alexandra Bridge on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Former U.S. president Bill Clinton used a morning run in Vancouver to smooth over the relationship between the Oval Office and the Pentagon, jogging alongside Lt.-Gen. Barry McCaffrey in 1993. The pair were in town for the U.S.-Soviet summit.

And Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne put her red windbreaker to good use when she had a morning jog with Indian track and field legend Milkha Singh during a visit to India in February. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SUPERHEROES

PM joins Alpha Flight on Marvel comic cover

Make way, Liberal cabinet: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will have another all-Canadian crew in his corner as he suits up for his latest feature role — comic book character.

Trudeau will grace the variant cover of issue No. 5 of Marvel's Civil War II: Choosing Sides, due out Aug. 31.

Trudeau is depicted smiling, sitting relaxed in the boxing ring sporting a Maple Leaf-emblazoned tank, black shorts and red boxing gloves. Standing behind him are Puck, Sasquatch and Aurora, who are members of Canadian superhero squad Alpha Flight. In the left corner, Iron Man is seen with his arms crossed.

"I didn't want to do a stuffy cover — just like a suit and tie — put his likeness on the cover and call it a day," said award-winning Toronto-based cartoonist Ramon Perez.

"I wanted to kind of evoke a little bit of what's different about him than other people in power right now."

The variant cover featuring Trudeau will be an alternative to the main cover in circulation showcasing Aurora, Puck, Sasquatch and Nick Fury.

The variant cover of a Civil War II comic, featuring Justin Trudeau and the members of Alpha Flight. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trudeau follows in the prime ministerial footsteps of his late father, Pierre, who graced the pages of Uncanny X-Men in 1979.

Edmonton-born artist and writer Chip Zdarsky said he was approached by Marvel to write an Alpha Flight story and knew right away he wanted Trudeau included.

"He seems to be the popular culture association with Canada right now, right behind (Toronto rapper) Drake — and I probably couldn't get Drake in the comic," Zdarsky added, laughing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AMANDA TODD CASE

Canada gets OK to extradite Dutch man

The mother of British Columbia teenager Amanda Todd says she feels numb but happy that a Dutch court has approved the extradition of a man implicated in her daughter's suicide following relentless cyberbullying.

Carol Todd said learning that Aydin Coban will be sent to face charges in Canada transported her back to October 2012, when her 15-year-old daughter took her own life after Coban allegedly posted nude photos of her online.

"It's brought me back emotionally, to ... when Amanda passed away. It's really emotional," Todd's mother said Tuesday in a phone interview from Denver, Colo., where she was attending a job-related conference.

"I'm numb, but I'm excited that we've been able to get this news today," she said. "I'm really glad that we've reached this step."

The Dutch justice minister must now sign off on the court's approval, though Coban's won't be extradited until after a separate criminal trial in the Netherlands on 72 charges of sexual assault and extortion.

If he is convicted in the Netherlands, Coban could be extradited to Canada for prosecution while still serving his initial sentence, the Dutch prosecution service has said. Any sentence arising from the Canadian proceedings would likely be served in the Netherlands.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Carol Todd and her daughter Amanda in an undated family photo. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Youth charged in severe beating of boy, 14

Friends and family are rallying around a teenager attacked and left for dead south of Edmonton.

Police say Braydon Heather, who is 14 and from Edmonton, was found in Beaumont at about 1:30 a.m. on June 21 with "obvious head injuries."

A male youth is charged with attempted murder and aggravated assault and is to appear in court in Leduc on July 8.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sask. gives out $2.1M to help new grads buy homes

More than $2 million has been approved under Saskatchewan's plan to help new graduates buy their first home.

Payments of $450,000 have been given out so far for 49 interest-free loans for a down payment for recent post-secondary graduates. The government has approved a total of 230 applications.

Advanced Education Minister Scott Moe says it's all about keeping people here in Saskatchewan.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. ELECTION

Trump's Muslim ban causes confusion

From the moment he first declared it, the plan has been a signature of his campaign for president: "Donald J. Trump is calling for a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States until our country's representatives can figure out what is going on."

Yet from that first moment, the Republican White House candidate has evaded questions when pressed for details. Now that he's a presumptive nominee with sliding poll numbers, his spokeswoman says he's no longer seeking the ban at all.

In its place, he's offering an approach based on a standard of terrorism that he and his campaign refuse to define.

The ban idea originated with 28 direct and forceful words, issued immediately after the December shootings in San Bernardino, Calif., that killed 14 people. The blanket nature of the proposal, which appeared to stretch beyond immigration to include any member of the Muslim faith seeking to cross the U.S. border, provoked a flurry of questions.

In the following days, he did offer shades of new detail. His ban would include exemptions, including for athletes and world leaders. As he got closer to winning the GOP nomination, his language softened further. Shortly after endorsing the billionaire businessman, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie suggested Trump had walked away from the plan entirely.

"That's not what he says any longer," Christie told ABC News in February. "He's backed off of that position over the course of time."

He hadn't. But Trump was now stressing the "temporary" nature.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Death toll rises in Istanbul

ATATURK AIRPORT

At least 36 dead, scores of others wounded in attacks

Three suspected Daesh suicide bombers targeted the international terminal of Istanbul's Ataturk airport Tuesday, killing at least 36 people and wounding many others, Turkish officials said.

Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said 36 were dead and Justice Minister Bekir Bozdag said 147 were wounded. Another senior government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity in line with government protocol, told The Associated Press the death toll could climb much higher.

Yildirim said three suicide bombers were responsible for the attack and all initial indications suggest the Daesh group, also known as ISIS or ISIL, was behind it.

He said the attackers arrived at the airport in a taxi and blew themselves up after opening fire.

The victims included some foreigners, he said, adding that many of the wounded have minor injuries but others are more badly hurt.

Another Turkish official said two of the attackers detonated explosives at the entrance of the international arrivals terminal after police fired at them, while the third blew himself up in the parking lot.

The official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity, said none of the attackers managed to get past security checks at the terminal's entrance.

Turkish airports have security checks at both the entrance of terminal buildings and then later before entry to departure gates.

Hevin Zini, 12, had just arrived from Duesseldorf, Germany, with her family and was in tears from the shock.

"There was blood on the ground," she told The Associated Press. "Everything was blown up to bits.... If we had arrived two minutes earlier, it could have been us."

Two South African tourists, Paul and Susie Roos from Cape Town, were at the airport and due to fly home at the time of the explosions.

"We came up from the arrivals to the departures, up the escalator when we heard these shots going off," Paul Roos said. "There was this guy going roaming around, he was dressed in black and he had a hand gun."

Yildirim said air traffic at the airport, which was suspended after the attack, had resumed to normal.

He suggested that the attack was linked to what he said was Turkey's success against Kurdish rebels as well as steps Ankara took on Monday toward mending strained ties with Israel and Russia. "It is meaningful that this heinous attack came at a time when we have become successful in the fight against separatist terrorism ... and at a time when we started a process of normalizing ties with our neighbours," Yildirim said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

+ OTHER ATTACKS

Turkey has suffered several bombings in recent months linked to Kurdish or Daesh militants.

The bombings include two in Istanbul targeting tourists — which authorities have blamed on Daesh.

The attacks have increased in scale and frequency, scaring off tourists and hurting the economy, which relies heavily on tourism revenues.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 Turkish police block the road as relatives of the passengers wait outside Turkey's largest airport, Ataturk.
GETTY IMAGES

2 Emotional passengers who survived the attacks cry as they leave Ataturk airport in Istanbul.
GETTY IMAGES

3 Distraught survivors of the attack leave Ataturk airport.
GETTY IMAGES

REFERENDUM

Of all the scenarios to block Brexit, one seems most likely

Demonstrators at an anti-Brexit protest. AFP/GETTY IMAGE

As continental powers pressure a nervous Britain to formally apply to exit the European Union, die-hard "remain" supporters are taking on the mission to put the brakes on the so-called Brexit.

But between the vagaries of Britain's unwritten constitution and the determination of the losing side to stay in the EU, lawyers, lawmakers and "remain" activists see room for hope.

Here are some of the suggestions from the pro-EU camp on how Britain could end up staying in the bloc, and an evaluation by Gavin Barrett, an expert on European constitutional law at University College Dublin:

IGNORING THE REFERENDUM

Parliament has no explicit legal obligation to implement the referendum's decision. Conceivably, elected representatives in Westminster could just ignore the electorate's verdict and opt to stay in the EU.

Lawmakers could slow the invocation of Article 50, the exit clause enshrined in the EU's governing Treaty of Lisbon, perhaps playing for time.

"On a likelihood scale, I'd say zero per cent," he says. "Governments cannot simply ignore the directly expressed will of the people."

INVOKING A SCOTTISH VETO

Britain's Parliament cannot normally legislate on Scottish matters without the assent of Scotland's staunchly pro-EU parliament in Edinburgh. Given that a withdrawal from the 28-nation bloc would likely mean quashing the application of EU laws in Scotland, some argue that gives Edinburgh a veto over the final decision.

Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland's separatist-minded first minister, appears to have endorsed that view.

So what are the chances that the Scots will ride to the rescue of England's pro-EU minority?

"Zero per cent as well," says Barrett. "Under the British constitutional system, Westminster is sovereign at the end of the day."

HOLDING A SECOND REFERENDUM

Calls for a second referendum actually predate the first one, and a well-publicized web petition calling for a new vote has already attracted nearly four million names (although how many are linked to genuine British voters is anyone's guess.)

But what if, instead of a do-over, the referendum were presented as a choice between the EU membership Britain has had until now and whatever new deal governing trade relations it could secure in its exit negotiations with the bloc.

Barrett predicted that any exit deal negotiated by Britain would be "bound to be inferior" to what the U.K. had before — and that EU powers would put aside their pride to welcome a wayward Britain back into the bloc. Of all the possibilities, he said, "I'd put my bet on that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Better pension plan not for all, prof says

RETIREMENT

Public sector employees already have secure plans

The tentative deal for an improved Canadian Pension Plan will help thousands of young Canadians better prepare for retirement, but not everyone needed the help.

Ian Lee, a professor at Carleton University's Sprott School of Business, says workers with generous defined benefit pension plans, including many government and public sector employees, were already on course for a secure retirement.

"The large corporate sector, they also have very good pension plans, by and large," he added.

Lee called the enhancement of the CPP an "squandering of resources" because reports suggest only around 15 to 20 per cent of Canadians are ill-prepared for retirement.

"It's not that the resources are going to disappear into nothingness, it is just that we're using resources that are scarce on a problem that doesn't exist for 80 per cent of the population," he said.

Instead, Lee added, a more targeted solution was required.

While the private sector has moved to shift the risk of pension plans to employees with a move to defined contribution plans, many in the public sector have managed to hold on to those plans.

Under defined benefit plans, the employer guarantees an employee will get a set, predefined level of benefits. If the pension fund's investments don't do well, the employer has to make up the shortfall.

To avoid that risk, many employers switched to defined contribution plans.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

> "We're using resources ... on a problem that doesn't exist for 80% of the population
>
> Ian Lee

FURNITURE

Ikea Canada recalls chests of drawers

Ikea has issued a Canadian recall notice for millions of chests of drawers that can tip over — a safety hazard that has been linked to the deaths of six children in the United States over several years as well as dozens of injuries.

The Swedish furniture multinational says it will repair or pay a refund for chests of drawers that don't meet North American safety standards.

It also urges customers to stop using the affected chests of drawers and put them out of the reach of children until the furniture can be secured to a wall. Customers who cannot secure the furniture to a wall are advised to bring the pieces back to any Ikea location for a refund.

Ikea Canada's move is part of a recall of 29 million chests and dressers sold in the U.S. and 6.6 million sold in Canada.

The company says there has been no serious incident reported in Canada.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission said Tuesday that all six of the children killed by tipped furniture were three years old or younger.

Consumer Product Safety Commission chairman Elliot Kaye watches a demonstration of how an Ikea dresser can tip and fall on a child during a news conference in Washington, Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

One of the children was killed about 27 years ago. The other deaths were more recent, between 2002 and 2016. The CPSC said it has received 36 reports of children who were injured by the furniture.

Chests and dressers manufactured between January 2002 and June 2016 qualify for a full refund. Furniture made before 2002 may be eligible for a partial store credit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ENTREPRENEURS

Clinton floats student debt plan

Hillary Clinton on Tuesday proposed letting entrepreneurs defer making student loan payments in order to create jobs and stimulate growth.

"We need more job creators and we need more young people starting businesses," the presumptive Democratic nominee told a crowd of coders inside a Denver tech incubator that houses several start-ups.

Clinton was looking to showcase her economic chops and woo young voters who had flocked to rival Bernie Sanders.

She proposed permitting start-up founders and early employees to forgo payments on their federal student loans for up to three years. Those who launch businesses that provide social benefits would also be permitted to apply for forgiveness of up to $17,500 of their debt after five years.

Clinton also called for connecting every household to high-speed internet by 2020 and training 50,000 new computer science teachers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hillary Clinton.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Wednesday, June 29, 2016

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
ON THE BROAD IMPLICATIONS OF BREXIT

Isolationist nationalism is ballooning across developed nations, and there's no reason why Canada should consider itself immune

Let's begin on this basic agreement: Brexit was not about the crazies.

There aren't 16 million nutjobs in the U.K.. You might not know it by the liberal media's gleeful embrace of remorseful "leave" voters who couldn't believe their side actually won, or its thrilled reporting on the millions of Brits who Googled "What's the EU?" late Thursday night. And you certainly wouldn't know it by the outrage and shock across the world last Friday after the results were reported.

That shock echoes much of America's utter inability to accept Donald Trump as the Republican presidential nominee (still). And to me, the astronomical level of surprise in both nations has been by far the most surprising — and disturbing — part. How could so many of us (I admit to shock at both movements) be so egregiously ignorant? And when's it Canada's turn to get pied?

There's no opining from a safe distance. It feels like a wave of isolationist nationalism is ballooning across developed nations. One that seems driven by a sort of rediscovery of an ignored working class and its place in the globalized economy. And there's no reason why Canada should consider itself immune.

Not all agree. Michael Hart, a professor emeritus of trade policy and foreign affairs at Carleton University, dismissed the idea that Brexit was about globalization at all. Actually, he called the idea "nonsense." The referendum, he told me, was about "anti-Brussels and anti-EU" sentiment, "and most Canadians would be, too." It was a rejection of the deep political, economic and judicial integration across Europe.

"A lot of people said: All we're doing is saying we're going to be a sovereign country again, negotiate new trade and investment relations," he said, painting the debate in the blandest of terms.

TAKING LEAVE Vote Leave supporters gather to listen to Nigel Farage, the leader of the UK Independence Party after the Brexit vote. MATT DUNHAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

What about the headline-grabbing immigration debate and underlying xenophobia, I pressed. But he brushed off both, blaming "a lot of ignorant people in the media."

But claiming little substantial xenophobia in a vote championed by far-right UKIP leader Nigel Farage is like arguing Donald Trump is a self-made man: Wanting it to be true doesn't make it thus. Of course a vote for sovereignty is wound up in nationalism, and nationalism and racism are hopelessly entwined.

Acknowledging this doesn't discredit other motivations for "leave" ballots. In a Guardian article this week, one writer argued the referendum was no surprise, after he travelled through the northern, less populated, far less wealthy parts of England that voted to leave, and heard parroted concerns: "There's no decent work." "The politicians don't care about us." "We've been forgotten." Nor does it disparage such economic worries to note some basic facts illuminated by the polls: "Leave" voters were, generally speaking, older, less educated, and less wealthy. Or, to a degree, what might be deemed the "working class."

Perhaps, as Hart argues, these voters were motivated by sovereign worries, but how angry about that would they be if they believed integration was bettering their lives?

That's why, according to a recent Bloomberg story, analysts at Deutsche Bank and Merrill Lynch have admitted in their reports that the working class in the U.S. and the U.K. might be fed up with getting the s–t end of the capitalist stick. Most important, they say: These people left out of global capitalism's benefits still hold enough political power to upend the European order and potentially thrust Donald Trump into the White House. Just as raging lefties I know were forced to bring a barf bag to the referendum polls, where they aligned themselves with David Cameron, raging capitalists are now being forced to align themselves with the likes of Bernie Sanders in admitting we may have a problem here.

Raging capitalists are being forced to align themselves with the likes of Bernie Sanders in admitting we may have a problem.

And likely here, in Canada.

Last year, research from the University of Calgary warned that the recent linguistic disappearing act that has made most of us self-identify with the "middle class" now threatens to obscure the legitimate concerns of a traditional "working-class," those in manufacturing,and clerical and service sectors, They are the ones "genuinely struggling to keep up."

"We should not feel complacent about Trump and Brexit, and we should not be just laughing at people who support Trump or voted for Brexit," said Diana Brydon, the Canadian Research Chair in Globalization and Cultural Studies at the University of Winnipeg.

We may have multiculturalism, plus a deep historic dependence on both immigration and global trade, but that doesn't mean people here aren't also afraid that growing international interconnectedness is loosening their control over their own lives.

"It's a sense of being left out of a global economy," she said to me.

Both Brexit and Trump are about a fear of change, a loss of autonomy, and "distrust of what are called elites and distrust of governance systems," she added.

Some are now slamming those same elites for ignoring that exact fear. But if the "Eurocrats, party leaders, academics and pundits" can now be chastised by the Globe and Mail's Margaret Wente for "not understanding their own people," so too should all surprised Americans, and, probably, so should we.

Three Amigos need to make a moral case for international trade

Steve Rennie
Metro | Ottawa

Today, they are amigos. Next year, who knows?

The bonhomie between Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, U.S. President Barack Obama and Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto will be on full display when the three leaders gather in Ottawa today for one of their annual meetings. For now, the three North American leaders agree more than they disagree, most notably, on easing trade barriers.

It is hard to imagine that will be the case when Trudeau and Peña Nieto meet with either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump at their next gathering.

Both U.S. presidential hopefuls — particularly Trump — are considerably more anti-free trade and inward-looking than Obama. Protectionist rhetoric always heats up during election campaigns, as candidates try to win over voters who are angry about the state of their economy. But this time there seems to be more to it. The populist messages of Trump and Clinton rival Bernie Sanders clearly struck a chord with large numbers of both Republican and Democrat voters. Clinton now opposes the Trans-Pacific Partnership — a trade deal she supported when she was U.S. Secretary of State — and she has distanced herself from the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Obama, Trudeau and Peña Nieto will likely talk about why it's better to break down trade barriers than to erect them. But that message will be a tough sell against the backdrop of a U.S. election campaign in which the candidates are openly deriding international agreements. And, even though Obama is racing against the clock to seal the TPP deal before he leaves the White House in January, he knows full well that whoever succeeds him is bent on undoing as much of the pact as possible.

The meeting runs the risk of being seen as an exercise in futility unless Trudeau and his amigos can make a pro-trade case that goes beyond the usual path-to-prosperity stuff. Trump's rise, Clinton's pivot, and the anti-internationalism that propelled the U.K. Brexit vote all show that large segments of the population aren't buying that line anymore.

There are ways to make such a case. To take just a couple of examples from yesterday's preliminary talks, Trudeau and Peña Nieto agreed to increase the number of student exchanges and they talked about how the countries could assist each other in addressing the plight of indigenous peoples.

The leaders would do well to emphasize such human-scale initiatives. They carry moral weight. They reveal important, underdiscussed dimensions of multilateral cooperation. They can amount to a corrective to anti-trade cynicism.

If this is indeed the last waltz for these likeminded amigos, they need to make it count.

Steve Rennie is a the managing editor of Metro Ottawa

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Ramadan's many meanings

CULTURE

Young Muslims forge their own traditions during the holy month

Genna Buck
Metro Canada

"It's one of the best times of the year."

That's how Asma Hasnat, a 26-year-old college student from Toronto, feels about Ramadan.

During the religious festival, which falls from June 6 to July 5 this year, Muslims abstain from eating, drinking (and having sex, among other things) from sunrise to sunset.

But not all Muslims observe Ramadan the same way.

"It's good to not fast in a way where you just starve yourself from morning to evening," Hasnat said.

"Fasting for me has been more about character development."

"(It's) a great time to discipline yourself: not only not eating and drinking, but also holding your tongue back in a moment when you want to say something wrong."

Her view was echoed by Rizwan Mohammad, 35, advocacy co-ordinator for the National Council of Canadian Muslims.

He said his personal experience of Ramadan — with family visits, a prayer on the night of the new moon, and daily breakfasts at 3 a.m. — is "a little more traditional."

But that's not true of participants in the weekly drop-in group he leads for young Muslims in the suburbs of east Toronto.

They've dubbed themselves Beyond Belief, and many members are what Mohammad calls "unmosqued": They don't belong to a particular faith community, but still want to "try to find a way to revisit their spirituality," during Ramadan.

He's not sure how many people in the group, or his wider social circle, fast according to the traditional rules.

"I see a whole spectrum of observance during Ramadan," Mohammad said.

People who typically don't pray or attend a mosque may start, he said.

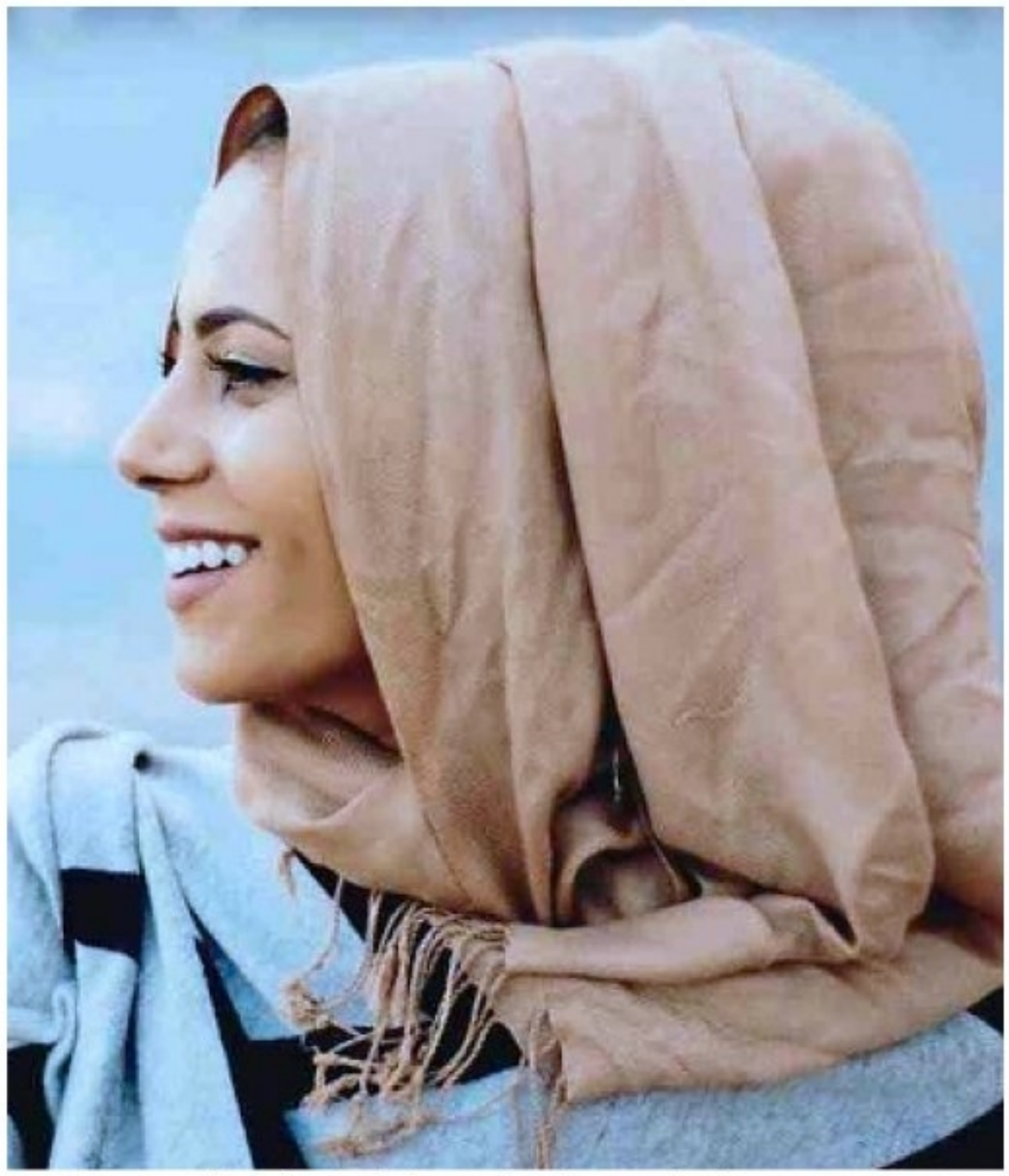
Siblings make a point to spend more time together. Some people renew their commitment to social justice causes, or "fast" from their favourite movies or music.

Others choose not to go to night prayers at their local mosque, but do come for the free post-fast meal and stay late into the night to enjoy the fellowship.

Mohammad rejects what he calls a tendency to "flatten" Ramadan and make it only about fasting and showing solidarity with the poor and hungry.

Because in addition to being about sacrifice, Ramadan is also a lot of fun: because of its focus on family time, charitable giving, feasting and togetherness.

Mohammad quoted a saying of the Prophet Muhammad, Islam's holiest figure, as evidence that the holy season is about more than abstinence: "Some people get nothing from fasting but starvation and thirst."



Asma Hasnat says that for her, fasting is more about character development. CONTRIBUTED

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ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

THIS WEEK: Chicken wings

Don't just wing it — always check the nutritional info!

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Sugar 1560 mg

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent in fat to almost three Chicken Fillet sandwiches from Arby's.

Chicken wings are a fave finger food indulgence for many, but how they're cooked makes all the difference to your waistline. Chicken is an excellent source of protein and is lower in fat and calories than other meats, but by adding a crispy tortilla coating and deep frying the health benefits are negated. Stick with the traditional; the honey garlic wings are roasted and save you over 2.5 times the calories and fat, as well as half the sodium.

COCKTAILS

Elusive orange liquer gaining in popularity

Genna Buck
Metro Canada

If you were hoping to relax this long weekend with a refreshing spritzer made with the popular bittersweet and fruity aperitif, Aperol, you may have to wait for it.

The prized cocktail ingredient has been MIA from liquor-store shelves across Ontario for the past 10 days because of an "unprecedented growth spike" in the popularity of Aperol spritzers, according to an email from a representative of Gruppo Campari, which owns the brand.

"Consumer demand has simply and greatly outpaced estimated growth volumes put forward by both ourselves at Campari Canada and the LCBO," the statement said.

Gruppo Campari has been plagued with repeated distribution problems in North America. There was a shortage of Campari, a similar liqueur, in many parts of Canada in the spring of 2015.

Aperol is a lightly alcoholic (11 per cent) spirit made with bitter oranges and imported from Italy. It's a key ingredient in popular cocktails like the paper plane (bourbon, Aperol, lemon juice); two-one-two (tequila, Aperol, grapefruit juice); and of course, the Aperol spritz, a Prosecco-Aperol-soda water concoction that is ubiquitous in northern Italy.

According to an LCBO inventory taken on June 27, all but 37 of the province's 684 liquor stores are out of Aperol, and most that still have it are down to their last bottle.

The Toronto area is entirely cleaned out. Maritimes, prairies, and west coast, fear not: The shortage is currently affecting Ontario only. Aperol will be back in stock in the coming week, the company says.

LIQUID ASSETS

Drink Canadian this July 1

With all due respect to those booze makers who were crafty before it was cool, on the eve of our 149th birthday it has never been a better time to drink Canadian. No matter your tipple, thanks to an unprecedented population explosion of Canuck wineries, distilleries, breweries and cideries, someone somewhere across our country has got you covered.

I'm not talking sub-par liquid thrown together to take advantage of the "love local" movement, our output is world class.

For a bottle of wine with a wide distribution fill your glass with the barbecue-friendly 2014 Raven Wicked White VQA ($14.95-$16.99) by Ontario's Andrew Peller. Fresh and fruit-forward its blend of citrus and spice will make a fine marriage with hamburgers and hotdogs. PETER ROCKWELL/FOR METRO

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Eat like the first Canadians

These Nish Kabobs are made of venison with a birch syrup glaze. COURTESY DAVID WOLFMAN

RECIPE

David Wolfman shares an aboriginal-inspired dish

Liz Brown
Metro | Canada

A member of the Xaxli'p First Nation in B.C., chef David Wolfman is an internationally recognized expert in wild game and traditional aboriginal cuisine.

He has fond childhood memories of his mother whipping up feasts for visitors. "When people came over, the first thing we'd do is head to the kitchen and she'd go and make food for everyone. Sharing was always important to us. It's what I do now, I share knowledge and food. That's what the elders have taught me," he says.

For Canada Day, he shares a recipe with Metro using some quintessentially Canadian ingredients: venison (deer meat) and birch syrup. If you can't procure wild game, beef or pork will suffice.

Need birch syrup? You can order it online at wildfoods.ca.

Wolfman dubs the recipe 'Nish Kabobs,' a playful riff on Shish Kabobs. "Nish is a slang term for Anishinaabe," says Wolfman.

Anishinaabe is an umbrella term used to describe some groups of First Nations in Ontario, Manitoba and Quebec.

Nish Kabobs with Birch/Balsamic Glaze

Makes 4 portions.

Ingredients:

- 1/2 tablespoon crushed black peppercorns
- 2 teaspoons fresh rosemary, chopped
- 1 teaspoon fresh thyme, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoon packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 3 tablespoons soya sauce (or tamari, a gluten-free soya sauce)
- 3 tablespoons lime juice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon birch syrup
- 12 oz venison/deer tenderloin, cut into 1-1/2 inch long strips
- 1 tbsp olive oil

Directions:

1. Soak eight wooden skewers in warm water for 30 minutes

2. In a stainless steel bowl, mix peppercorns, rosemary, thyme, garlic, Dijon, balsamic vinegar, brown sugar, olive oil, soya sauce, lime juice, salt, and birch syrup; mix well.

3. Divide mixture into two and place half the mixture in a saucepan and simmer on very low heat for 15 minutes, strain and reserve.

4. With the remaining mixture add the venison/deer and turn to coat evenly; let marinate at room temperature for 1 hour.

5. Drain and discard marinade. Thread deer/venison onto wooden skewers.

6. Slightly brush with olive oil and grill over medium-hot heat or broil 2 minutes per side, turning occasionally and do not over cook.

7. Garnish skewers with the reserved glaze

VISIT COOKINGWITHTHEWOLFMAN.COM FOR MORE RECIPES

INTO THE WOODS SMOOTHIE

A refreshing treat for Canada Day

This is a quick recipe for a tasty smoothie featuring ingredients indigenous to Turtle Island — a name that many First Nations use to refer to North America. And no, there are no turtles in this recipe!

Ingredients

- 1 cup (250 mL) fresh or frozen blueberries
- 1 cup (250 mL) maple water
- 1 avocado diced
- ¼ cup (60 mL) pecans
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) maple syrup
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) sunflower butter

Directions

Combine all ingredients in a blender and blend until smooth. Makes two servings. DAVID WOLFMAN

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metro WHEELS
Your essential daily news

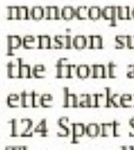
KTM X-Bow to hit Canadian streets in 2017

New Spider a fun and worthy rival

ALL PHOTOS HANDOUT

REVIEW

Runs on same platform as MX-5 Miata



Dan Ilika
For Metro Canada

If the Mazda MX-5 Miata taught us anything, it's that fun cars don't have to be expensive, complicated or unreliable.

Tired of its roadsters being remembered as little more than relics of bygone days, Fiat is ready to take another shot at droptop dominance with the 2017 Fiat 124 Spider. And in the ultimate if-you-can't-beat-'em-join-'em fashion, the 124 Spider is based on the very car it hopes to challenge in the sales race.

Three and a half years were spent designing and refining what brand executives hope will become a true halo car for Fiat, and it shows. The 124 Spider may ride on the same architecture as the fourth-generation Miata, but every bit of bodywork and drivetrain has been swapped out to help set it apart from its platform mate.

This new Fiat is made from a monocoque unibody with suspension subframes bolted to the front and rear. Its silhouette harkens back to the Fiat 124 Sport Spider of the 1960s. The overall design, too, follows the course mapped out some 50 years ago, with classic looks that are reserved. If you're looking for a companion for those new perforated leather driving gloves, the 124 Spider would be it.

Regardless of trim — the 124 Spider is available in base Classica, Lusso and Abarth — all cars come with a 1.4-litre MultiAir turbo four-cylinder under the hood. Yes, this powerplant sports forced induction, but no, it's not exactly the turbocharged Miata fanboys and fangirls have been asking for.

With 160 horsepower, it does make more power than the Miata's 2.0-litre, but not enough to wow the diehards. That's particularly the case when considering that the engine is virtually a direct transplant from the likes of the Dodge Dart and Fiat 500L.

But don't let that disheartening fact ruin your 124 experience, because the engine feels completely different in the roadster than in the crossover.

The standard transmission is, well, a standard transmission; a six-speed manual, to be exact. It's a different gearbox than the one found in the MX-5, and boasts short throws and a friendly clutch. Low gears are a touch on the short side, but it makes a nice companion to the 1.4-litre when you feel like banging through the gears.

So if the MX-5 Miata is the standard by which all roadsters are now measured, where does that leave this new Fiat? Well, off to a good start.

Everything that makes the Miata so lovable — its light weight, great balance and near-impeccable handling — carry over nicely to the Fiat, making it a viable alternative to a car that has dominated the segment for close to 30 years.

THE CHECKLIST | 2017 FIAT 124 SPIDER

THE BASICS

Engine: 1.4L turbocharged 4-cylinder
Power: 160 horsepower
Transmission: Six-speed manual or six-speed automatic
Fuel Economy (L/100 km): Nine city, 6.7 hwy (manual)
Price: Starts at $33,495 (before freight)

LOVE IT

- Shared platform with Mazda MX-5 Miata
- Near-perfect weight balance
- Impressive suspension and handling

LEAVE IT

- Lack of headroom
- Lack of sport mode on automatic

Muddy boots wanted in lux trucks

IN BRIEF

Nissan develops ethanol-powered fuel cell

Nissan has revealed a new fuel-cell propulsion system which uses an onboard tank of ethanol to produce electricity to power an engine. Called an e-bio fuel cell, Nissan says that the new car will be able to travel more than 370 miles on a single tank of ethanol. The system uses a Solid Oxide Fuel Cell to generate power from the reaction of multiple fields, in this case including ethanol, oxygen and natural gas. The e-bio fuel cell uses hydrogen just like the Toyota Mirai, but in Nissan's system, the hydrogen is produced in the car by a reformer.

STEPHEN ELMER/ AUTOGUIDE.COM

SUPER DUTY

Vinyl flooring never looked so fancy

Ford is making sure that the working man with muddy boots will feel comfortable in its luxury pickups. For 2017, the Ford Super Duty lineup will offer a vinyl flooring option for the King Ranch and Platinum edition trucks, offering customers a luxury interior without the fancy carpeting which quickly gets dirty. To make sure that these models still stand out, the vinyl flooring is more durable and thicker than in base models. "Super Duty customers use their trucks in all aspects of their lives — including for work and as a personal vehicle," said Doug Scott, Ford truck group marketing manager. "They want the luxury of a King Ranch or Platinum edition, while maintaining their ability to use the truck for work without fear of ruining the interior."

STEPHEN ELMER/AUTOGUIDE.COM

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LAMBORGHINI

Museum gets a refresh

Lamborghini's headquarters in Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy houses the brand's official museum, which just received a complete overhaul. Tons of classic Italian metal will be now be on display in the museum. The impressive list of vehicles includes classics like the Diablo with four-wheel drive and the P 140 with its aluminum chassis, while some of Lamborghini's newer creations are also on display.

STEPHEN ELMER/AUTOGUIDE.COM

ROLLS-ROYCE

Future looks outrageous

The Rolls-Royce brand has imagined what its lineup of ultra-luxury vehicles will look like over the next 100 years. It has rolled out the VISION NEXT 100 concept, trying to answer some key questions, like what is the future of luxury and how will Rolls-Royce fit into that framework. Customization, and self-driving will feature prominently and will be a large part of its future. The Rolls-Royce concept also has virtual intelligence.

STEPHEN ELMER/AUTOGUIDE.COM

FORD MUSTANG

New face for Transformers 5

The fifth Transformers movie is currently filming and another one of its featured vehicles has been released. This time, it is the Ford Mustang which plays the evil Decepticon known as Barricade. This is the first time that the new sixth-generation Mustang has been used in the popular film series. Like its predecessors, the new Mustang is still a take on a police vehicle, with big bull bars up front and "to punish and enslave" plastered on its rear fenders. Blacked-out headlight surrounds, a new vented hood and some large spotlights mounted to the A-pillars are a few of the new features.

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You might rent your car to a stranger

TURO

Startups take on 'impersonal' rentals

Sami Haj-Assaad
AutoGuide.com

Thanks to services like AirBnB and Uber, the idea of making money by sharing your assets is huge. Entrepreneurial types can earn extra income by letting people rent rooms in their homes or hitch a ride around town, but what about letting someone rent your car?

"Those other services (Uber and AirBnB) showed it's OK to share your assets," said Cedric Mathieu of Turo.

Turo is a peer-to-peer car rental service that allows car owners to rent out their vehicle to make some extra coin. First launched in 2010 in Boston, the company says it is another way people can borrow a car affordably. At the same time, it allows people who have a car but aren't using it to make some extra money. Turo isn't the only option, with competitors like Getaround offering a similar service.

Mathieu explained that the traditional car rental experience is "watered down and impersonal." You have to pick a category like economy, compact, full size, premium or luxury and then you get what they have.

Instead, a peer-to-peer rental service allows people to pick exactly what car they'd like.

"We have various BMWs, Toyotas, Teslas, VWs," Mathieu says. "It's also on average 30 per cent cheaper than other services," mainly because the owners set their own prices.

IN CANADA
Turo launched in Canada in April, and is currently available in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta.

Andre Haddad is the CEO of Turo, and also a user. He put his Porsche 911 on the service, and many people have used it for special occasions. HANDOUT

Availability

Turo is available in more than 3,000 cities across the U.S. and Canada, and services are available in more than 300 airports. Renters can pick rides up at the airport when they arrive somewhere.

Like AirBnB and Uber, renters get to experience more of a customized experience.

"Often, car owners will also act as a concierge and provide a list of their favourite restaurants in the area and other tidbits," explained Turo spokesperson Daniela Kelloway.

Users arrange their rentals through a site or phone app and can communicate with the owners clearly and easily.

Peer-to-peer car renting isn't just about the renting experience, it's about how it can change someone's car ownership experience.

"The main model is for owners to rent out their personal car," Mathieu says. "It can even offset the cost of ownership."

He said the average owner makes $600 US a month, and some users are even earning around the $3,000 US mark. People can also make their own fleet of vehicles available.

Protecting cars and owners

Naturally, it's a bit worrying to let a stranger rent your car, which is typically the second-most expensive thing besides a house that a person buys. Turo has a number of ways to put owners at ease. For starters, all cars on the service are covered by Turo's own insurance. Each rental is covered by at least $1-million dollar liability insurance. Turo will also provide damage protection for the actual cash value of the car — up to $75,000 — for anything that qualifies as a "covered peril" during the rental period.

Canadians get a slightly different take on coverage with $2 million liability insurance, but only one protection package: the standard level that takes 75 per cent but requires no deductible for damages.

Turo allows owners to set the price of their vehicle, or allows the price to change dynamically as needed. Owners can also set a mileage limit on their vehicle so their car doesn't accumulate an unreasonable amount of wear and tear.

Turo does a few other things to help protect owner's assets. All renters are screened by the company and profiles can be reviewed and rejected by owners if they're uncomfortable with someone renting their car. Owners also have access to a 24-hour emergency response team to help with anything that can occur.

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BMW offers first glimpse of art cars

John Baldessari and Cao Fei are behind BMW's 19th and 18th art cars, respectively. HANDOUT

M6 GT3

Creators share intentions for arty automobiles

Stephen Elmer
AutoGuide.com

BMW has released details and two photos that offer us a glimpse at what its upcoming art cars will be all about.

Two different artists are creating these cars; Cao Fei of China will put together the 18th BMW art car while American John Baldessari will create the 19th.

Both will start with a BMW M6 GT3 as their canvas, though both are taking different approaches to the process.

Fei says that her main theme will be "a landscape of no man's land," referencing self-driving cars and virtual reality.

"I expect to transcend the current context of 'cars' and to embrace new possible ways of expressions. To me, that not only includes the artist, but also the public," said Cao Fei.

Baldessari approached the car with his signature style of placing brightly coloured dots around an object.

"I didn't design the car — I collaborated with the designers of the car. I think the challenge comes in making something that cannot be understood from just one point of view, but only from a total point of view.

"I figured my use of coloured dots is kind of an iconic series, so I had to include that. I'm actually advertising myself," said John Baldessari.

The 18th art car by Cao Fei will be revealed at a major art museum sometime in 2017, while it will make its first public race track debut in Asia, also sometime in 2017.

The 19th BMW art car by John Baldessari will make its world premiere at the Art Basel in Miami Beach on November 30, 2016.

Its first racetrack appearance will come at the Rolex 24 in Daytona, taking place in January of 2017.

IN BRIEF

The Next BMW 3 series to be built in Mexico

ISTOCK

Soon, one of BMW's most iconic vehicles will be built in Mexico.

BMW has announced the start of construction on a new manufacturing plant in San Luis Potosí, Mexico where the 3 Series Sedan will be built in the future. Production of the car is scheduled to begin in 2019, with annual production pegged at 150,00 units. A total 1,500 new jobs are being created at the plant, which will cost roughly $1 billion.

It will be a full plant complete with a body shop, paint shop and assembly line. The plant will also be BMW's most resource-efficient production location thanks to CO2-free electricity from solar panels and a focus on water conservation. STEPHEN ELMER/FOR METRO

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metro SPORTS

The Canadian women's rugby sevens 2016 Olympic team has been drawn into a group with Britain, host Brazil and Japan

Serena snubs numbers game

WIMBLEDON

'I don't necessarily think about winning 22'

Leave all the chatter about Serena Williams' pursuit of her 22nd major singles trophy to others.

Williams and her coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, do not discuss that number.

"We don't talk about it at all. Zero," Mouratoglou said Tuesday at Wimbledon after watching Williams win her first-round match.

Why is that?

"Because there is nothing to talk about. We have a Grand Slam (title) to win, and that's what's most important. We don't talk about the reward," he said. "We talk about the work we have to do."

That is going to include some extra time spent fine-tuning the top-seeded Williams' serve after she delivered five double-faults, including three in one game, and faced five break points during an uneven 6-2, 6-4 victory over Amra Sadikovic, a Swiss qualifier ranked 148th and making her Grand Slam debut.

"It's very rare that everything works perfectly the first round. It's one of the things that were not good today, so we're going to work on it," Mouratoglou said. "But it's not a big deal. I don't think it's a big deal."

Since earning her sixth Wimbledon championship and 21st Grand Slam title a year ago, Williams has gone 18-3 at majors, with the losses coming in the U.S. Open semifinals, the Australian Open final and the French Open final.

That led some to surmise that Williams has been beset by nerves as she seeks No. 22, which would equal Steffi Graf's Open-era record (Margaret Court holds the all-time mark of 24).

Williams dismissed the notion of a mental stumbling block.

"I think more or less about winning Australia. I think about winning the French Open. Didn't happen. I think about winning Wimbledon," she said. "I don't necessarily think about winning '22.'" THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena Williams' chase for a 22nd major singles title got off to a smooth start Tuesday at Wimbledon with a straight-sets victory. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

RAIN DELAY

It didn't take long for the first rain of this year's tournament, which cut short action in the early evening and limited play to the main stadium, the only venue with a roof at the All England Club. In all, 14 matches were suspended in progress and 17 were postponed altogether.

Of the matches that did conclude, zero seeded players lost.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Decorated coach Pat Summitt dead at 64

Pat Summitt, the winningest coach in Division I college basketball history who uplifted the women's game from obscurity to national prominence during her 38-year career at Tennessee, died Tuesday morning. She was 64.

Pat Summitt GETTY IMAGES FILE

Summitt led the Lady Vols to eight national championships before she retired in 2012.

Tennessee won NCAA titles in 1987, 1989, 1991, 1996-98 and 2007-08. Summitt had a career record of 1,098-208 in 38 seasons, plus 18 NCAA Final Four appearances.

She announced in 2011 at age 59 that she'd been diagnosed with early onset dementia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIO OLYMPICS

Visitors welcomed by striking police

Just weeks ahead of the Olympic Games, police helicopters are grounded, patrol cars are parked and Rio de Janeiro's security forces are so pressed for funds that some have to beg for donations of pens, cleaning supplies and even toilet paper.

Brazil is suffering the worst recession in decades and Rio's acting governor has declared a state of financial disaster this month, largely to bolster spending on security as the world's spotlight turns to the city.

"We can have a great Olympics, but if some steps aren't taken, it can be a big failure," Gov. Francisco Dornelles told Rio's O Globo newspaper.

Angry civil police officers staged a strike on Monday, with one contingent greeting visitors at Rio's international airport with a sign reading, in English, "Welcome to Hell. Police and firefighters don't get paid; Whoever comes to Rio de Janeiro will not be safe." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Top-ranked men's golfer skipping Rio Olympics

Jason Day pulled out of the Olympics on Tuesday because of the Zika virus, costing golf its No. 1 player as it returns from a century-long absence at the games.

The sport has lost two of its biggest stars in the last week — Rory McIlroy, a four-time major champion, also said Zika will keep from competing in Rio de Janeiro. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Death of football defensive mastermind confirmed

Buddy Ryan, the pugnacious coach who masterminded two fierce defences that won Super Bowl titles and whose twin sons have been successful NFL coaches, died Tuesday. He was 85.

His death was confirmed by the Buffalo Bills, where Rex Ryan is the head coach and Rob Ryan an assistant. Buddy Ryan's agent said he died in Kentucky but did not give a cause. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Indians rally to win 11th straight game

Carlos Santana hit a tie-breaking single in Cleveland's three-run ninth inning, Corey Kluber allowed only three hits in eight innings and the Indians beat the Atlanta Braves 5-3 on Tuesday night for their 11th straight win.

The winning streak is Cleveland's longest in 34 years.

Arodys Vizcaino (1-3) walked Tyler Naquin to open the ninth and then walked Juan Uribe on four pitches. With pinch-runner Rajai Davis at first base, pinch-hitter Michael Martinez struck out.

Vizcaino was in danger of issuing another walk when Santana lined a 3-1 pitch to right field, driving in Naquin from second base. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TUESDAY In Atlanta

INDIANS	BRAVES
5	3

YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

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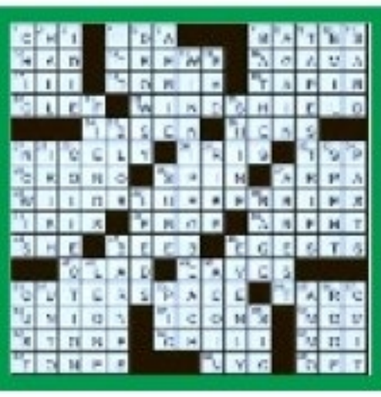

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7	3	9	8	6	1	5	2	4
6	5	4	9	2	3	8	1	7
4	2	7	6	1	8	3	5	9
5	8	3	2	7	9	1	4	6
9	6	1	5	3	4	7	8	2

metro

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Conte thirsty for more

EURO 2016
QUARTER-FINALS

Italy coach seeks titanic effort vs. German foes

The gap in class that recently seemed so great between Germany and Italy is not so big now.

In fact, it might have closed completely when the old rivals meet Saturday in the European Championship quarter-finals.

Italy's standout performances at Euro 2016 — a pair of 2-0 wins to end Spain's reign on Monday and unsettle Belgium in their opening match — rank high among the tournament's best.

They also repaired much of the damage done in March when Germany easily beat Italy 4-1 in a friendly.

"Perhaps the score-line was a bit harsh on us," Italy coach Antonio Conte said as he looked ahead to a German reunion on Saturday. "But I remember our self-confidence, our faith in us, really dropped a great deal after that fixture."

"Now, we are trying to win back that confidence, that self-belief," the Azzurri coach said through a translator.

Three months ago, Conte said after the rout in Munich that he chose the World Cup winner as an opponent to "measure the gap between us and Germany."

It was the last game before Conte named a squad that was branded by national media as one of the worst to leave Italy for a major tournament.

Missing injured midfielders Claudio Marchisio and Marco Verratti, Conte has not disguised why hopes were so low.

"There's no hiding the fact it's not the rosiest period in Italy for football talent," he said, before praising the unity and strengths of his 23-man squad once again. "The only route forward we could have to achieve a semblance of success is to try and be a club."

Antonio Conte
GETTY IMAGES

Conte's mastery of management is clearly a big reason for Italy outperforming those limited expectations.

So when he praises Germany as "the best side in the European Championship," it sounds like a clever mix of honesty and mind games.

"I think Germany are a cut above the rest. I've got no problem stating that," Conte said. "We might even need something absolutely extraordinary because extraordinary on its own might not be enough."

Playing Spain in the round of 16, however, was also meant to be a test beyond Italy's ability.

"We know that when the going gets tough, we do tend to respond," said Conte, who can still rely on a veteran defensive line of rare vintage that he once picked at his former club Juventus.

For his next challenge in Bordeaux on Saturday, he wants to ensure his team approaches the 2014 World Cup winner without feeling satisfied at simply ousting the 2010 champion Spain.

"It must not really quench our thirst for victories, our thirst to amaze people, our thirst to get people talking," Conte said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

0-for-8

Of eight meetings between the countries at tournaments, starting with a goalless draw at the 1962 World Cup in Chile, Germany has won none.

Now Germans call Italy their "Angstgegner" or "feared opponent."

MLS

TFC's down a No. 1 'keeper till August

Having had to make do without captain Michael Bradley because of Copa America, Toronto FC now finds itself without another key player.

The MLS club said Tuesday that goalkeeper Clint Irwin will be out for six weeks with a quadriceps strain.

The 27-year-old left Saturday's 3-2 loss in Orlando in the 70th minute after injuring his leg on a routine goal kick. Alex Bono came on to make his MLS debut as his replacement.

Clint Irwin
GETTY IMAGES

Bradley, who has missed Toronto's last six games while on international duty with the U.S., is finished with Copa America but remains a question-mark. A club official said Tuesday he was back in Toronto for medical evaluation of a knee injury. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Canucks will pay $50K for Stamkos, P.K. comments

The Vancouver Canucks will pay for general manager Jim Benning's candid comments.

The club was fined $50,000 US by the NHL on Tuesday for tampering after Benning mentioned the Canucks' interest in Montreal defenceman P.K. Subban and Tampa Bay captain Steven Stamkos in a radio interview last Thursday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WR Baldwin re-signs with Seattle through 2020

The Seattle Seahawks and wide receiver Doug Baldwin agreed to a four-year contract extension on Tuesday that runs through the 2020 season.

Baldwin is coming off a career season, tying for the NFL lead in touchdown receptions and setting career highs in TDs, receptions and yards receiving. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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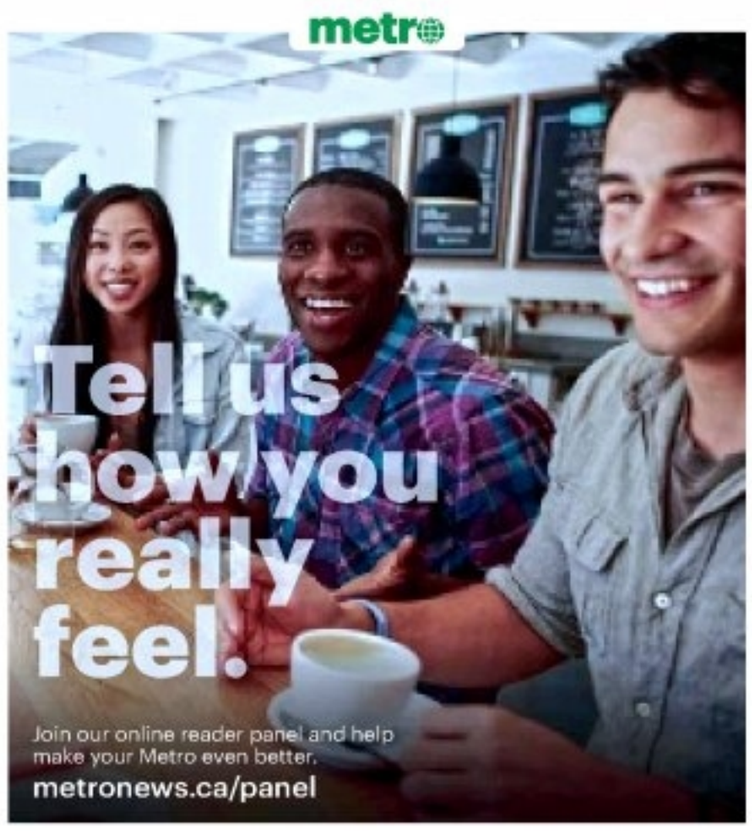

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RECIPE Turkey Lettuce Wraps

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

These lettuce wraps are a light spin on dinner and receive a monster hit of flavor thanks to ginger, garlic and Sriracha.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 lb (450 g) ground turkey
- 1 Tbsp (15 ml) of vegetable oil
- 1 red pepper, diced
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) water chestnuts, diced
- 2 scallions, chopped
- 1 clove of garlic, minced
- 1 tsp (5 ml) ginger, minced
- 1 Tbsp (15 ml) rice vinegar
- 1 Tbsp (15 ml) soy sauce
- 1 Tbsp (15 ml) Sriracha
- 1 head of Boston or bibb lettuce
- small handful of cilantro, chopped
- small handful of unsalted cashews, chopped

Directions

1. Warm the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the turkey and break it up with a spoon as it browns until almost cooked through.

2. Add the peppers, garlic and ginger and keep pushing everything around until it smells amazing and the vegetables begin to soften. Pour in the vinegar, soy and Sriracha, along with the water chestnuts and give it all a stir.

3. Check that the turkey has cooked through. Put the mixture in a serving bowl.

4. Place the meat, whole lettuce leaves, chopped cilantro and nuts on the table and let everyone assemble their lettuce wraps.

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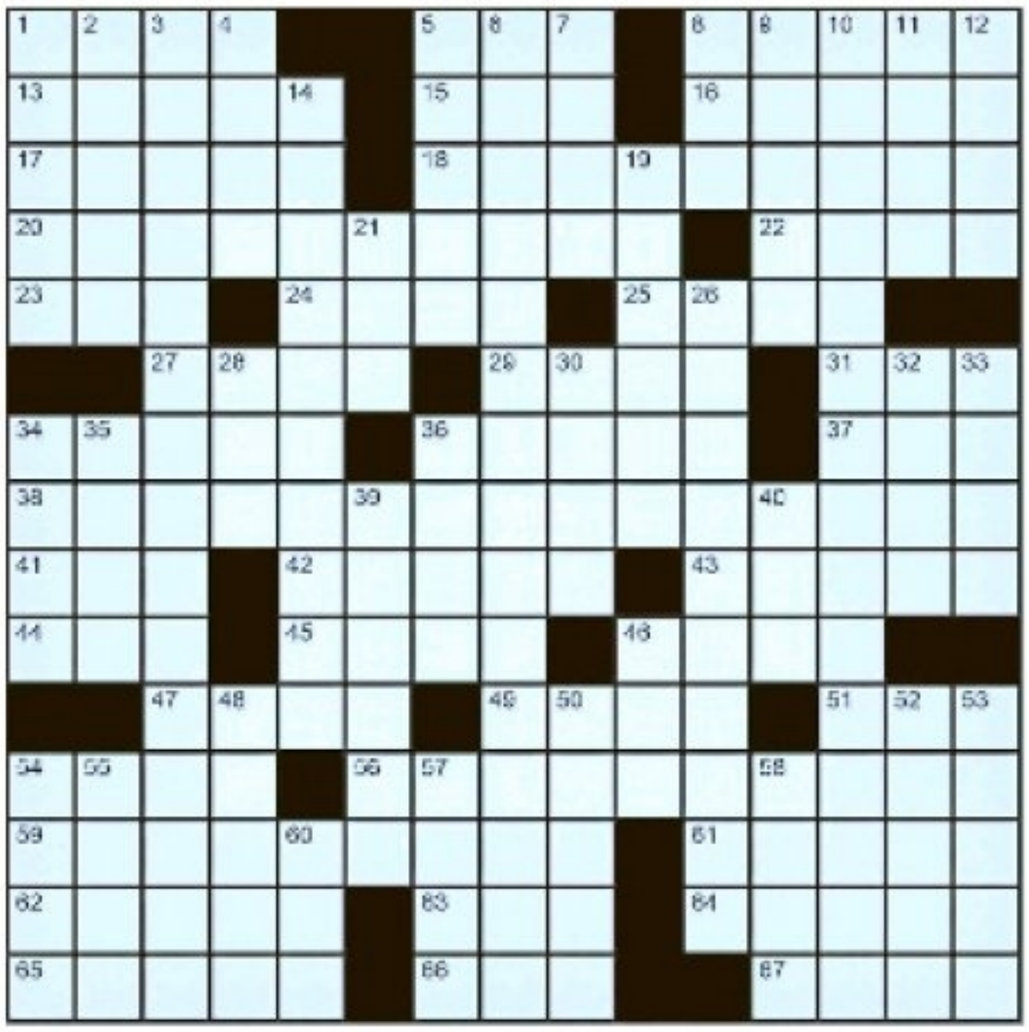
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Skin 'vent'
5. Afternoon time
8. Model/actress Kate
13. Time and __ (Extra hours pay)
15. Crude
16. Shoe material
17. __ Sergeant
18. Measure that ingredient by sight: 2 wds.
20. Canadian finance magazine/website
22. Contact __ (Vision corrector)
23. Disney-owned network
24. Church's vaulted area
25. Recipe amt.
27. Morns followers
29. 'Thin Man' pooch
31. Letters-for-a-Royal
34. Many times
36. Daggers
37. Goose, in Montreal
38. Alfred Sung's profession: 2 wds.
41. Monk's title
42. Comprehend
43. Heart, in Hull
44. Jack, to Ozzy
45. Lofty
46. Lay __ thick (Be melodramatic)
47. "What can I __ fix things?" (Is this repairable?)
49. Acronymed-spot in a Beatles song
51. Aunt's li'l hubby
54. Robert __ (George Gershwin portrayer in film)
56. Shawn Mendes/Camila Cabello duet: "I Know What You Did __ __"
59. Ted's sweetheart on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"
61. Verboten
62. Aqua __ (Gold-dissolving mixture)
63. Increase, with Up
64. 'Laughing' animal
65. PGA, et al.
66. Choler
67. Industrial city in Russia

DOWN
1. Celebrity chef Ms. Lakshmi
2. "__, __!" (Laura Petrie's catchphrase on "The Dick Van Dyke Show")
3. Really 'purr' outside, it's noisy when it hits the house's 'woof': 4 wds.
4. She, in Sherbrooke
5. Balsam Firs
6. Duo of classic Canadian comedy: 3 wds.
7. Has to pay up
8. Can. neighbour
9. Removes
10. In Toronto, one would start with 416...: 2 wds.
11. Norse deity
12. Butterfly banes
14. Chilliwack song that starts "Four men in a rock 'n' roll band...": 3 wds.
19. Ms. Midler's
21. 2008 VP candidate from Alaska ...her initials-sharers
26. Maxim or axiom: 2 wds.
28. "Blah!"
30. Permeate
32. Andre __ (Dutch violinist/conductor of PBS concert fame)
33. Berlin 'mister'
34. Switch settings sometimes
35. 'Yukon's Best Kept Secret' town
36. Hitch
39. Blue Jay's competitor in Baltimore
40. Guck
46. Magazine no.
48. Put one's __ (Meddle)
50. Mr. McQueen
52. Bright city lights
53. Bullfrog's noise
54. Taj†Mahal's site
55. Horsley and Majors
57. The Bell of __ (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow poem)
58. Potato salad ingr.
60. Car's fill up

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Family discussions will be more important in the next two weeks. Very likely, they will focus on get-togethers, reunions and home repairs. "Let's fix up the place!"

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Today Mercury changes signs, which is why you will be more talkative in the next two weeks. You want to enlighten others. You have something to say!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Financial matters will be on your mind in the next two weeks. Trust your ability to come up with excellent moneymaking ideas.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Because Mercury will be in your sign for the next two weeks, you are eager to communicate with someone to maintain a friendly relationship. Enjoy reaching out.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Behind-the-scenes research will go well for you in the next few weeks. Keep digging for whatever it is you are looking for, because you will find it.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will enjoy hanging out with younger people in the next few weeks. This is a good time to share your future goals to get someone's feedback.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Discussions with bosses, parents and VIPs will be important in the next two weeks. You have something to say; they are willing to listen.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It will be easy to study anything at school or for personal reasons in the next two weeks. Your mind wants to expand and learn whatever it can.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Discussions about shared property, inheritances and insurance disputes will go well in the next two weeks. You've done your homework, and you feel informed.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The next two weeks are an excellent time to clarify issues or explain something to a close friend or partner. You want to have some intellectual stimulation with others.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You will excel at any kind of mental work in the next two weeks because you will pay attention to detail more than usual. Furthermore, you will set high standards for yourself.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Expect to be in a more playful mood in the next two weeks. You want to have fun with others as well as play pranks. You also will enjoy reading and writing for pleasure.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

2	5			1			9	4
			5		3			
	7						3	
	6						2	
1				3				8
	4						7	
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